CLAIMS

We claim:

1. If method for reconstructing an integrated circuit package comprisit	1	1.	A method for reconstructing an integrated circuit package comprising
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- attaching a die to exposed wire bond pads of a lead frame so that the die is
- 3 electrically connected to the lead frame; and
- 4 encapsulating the die and the wire bond pads in an encapsulant; and
- reshaping an upper surface of the encapsulant where at least a portion of the
- 6 encapsulant reshaping is performed by a lapping process.
- 1 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by an
- 2 abrasive or ablative lapping process.
- 1 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by a
- 2 mechanical, chemical, or electromagnetic lapping process.
- 1 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein encapsulating the die and the wire
- 2 bond pads results in the encapsulant having a convex or concave an upper surface,
- 3 and reshaping the encapsulant results in the encapsulant having a planar an upper
- 4 surface.
- 1 5. A method according to claim 1, further comprising marking the reshaped
- 2 upper surface of the encapsulant.
- 1 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the reshaped upper surface of the
- 2 encapsulant is sufficiently flat to permit labeling by printing, photolithographic or
- 3 mechanical marking techniques to simulate a production transfer molded
- 4 encapsulated IC package, the method further comprising marking the reshaped
- 5 upper surface of the encapsulant.

- 1 7. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a laser
- 2 or another source of electromagnetic radiation.
- 1 8. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a
- 2 planar abrasive surface.
- 1 9. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a
- 2 planar abrasive surface attached to a wheel or belt.
- 1 10. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a
- 2 planar abrasive surface sufficiently large to permit more than one package to be
- 3 lapped at the same time.
- 1 11. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by chemical
- 2 etching.
- 1 12. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a gas-
- 2 jet or liquid-jet containing a particulate material.
- 1 13. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed via a
- 2 mechanical grind.
- 1 14. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a
- 2 combination of mechanical and chemical ablation.
- 1 15. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a
- 2 combination of mechanical and electromagnetic ablation.
- 1 16. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using laser
- 2 ablation.

- 1 17. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed using a
- 2 combination of electromagnetic and chemical ablation.
- 1 18. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by impinging
- 2 an ultra-fine particulate using a high pressure gas-jet against the material to be
- 3 lapped.
- 1 19. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by impinging
- 2 an ultra-fine particulate under high pressure against the material to be lapped.
- 1 20. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by delivering
- a pulsating liquid-jet under high pressure against the material to be lapped.
- 1 21. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by plasma
- 2 etching.
- 1 22. A method according to claim 1, wherein lapping is performed by a
- 2 pressurized liquid against the material to be lapped.